



# STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS DIVISION OF STATE POLICE



Edition 1

## Uniform Crime Reporting

### Newsletter / Updates

#### Incident Based Reporting Guidelines and Standards

Frequently asked questions. . .

☐ All offenses reported to the UCR Program, regardless of what the offense is called at the local or state level, should conform to the UCR classification of offenses. (*Uniform Crime Reporting Handbook, 1984, p.3*)

☐ For crimes against persons, score one offense for each victim (*Uniform Crime Reporting Handbook, 1984 p.6 and Uniform Crime Reporting Handbook, NIBRS Edition, p 29*)

☐ For crimes against property, score one offense for each distinct operation, except in the case of motor vehicle theft for which one offense is counted for each stolen vehicle. (*Uniform Crime Reporting Handbook, 1984 , p. 6 and Uniform Crime Reporting Handbook, NIBRS Edition, p. 29*)

#### Property Values

☐ Procedures suggested by the national Program for property evaluation are: fair market value, wholesale cost (for retail establishments, victim's evaluation, replacement cost, common sense and good judgement. (*Uniform Crime Reporting Handbook , 1984, p.49 and Uniform Crime Reporting Handbook, NIBRS Edition, p. 43*)

☐ Property segments are used to describe the type, value, and (for drugs and narcotics seized in drug cases) quantity of property involved in the incident. A property segment should be submitted for each type of property loss. (*Uniform Crime Reporting, National Incident Based Reporting System, Volume 1, Data Collection Guidelines, August 2000, p. 61*)

#### Summary Based Reporting Guidelines

☐ In multiple-offense situations, apply the Hierarchy Rule, which requires "counting only the highest offense ... and ignoring all others ... (*Uniform Crime Reporting Handbook, 1984, p. 33*)

☐ Hierarchy Rule does not apply to arson, and this crime is always reported even in multiple offense situations ...

#### Classifying Offenses

☐ Law Enforcement should classify and report offenses after preliminary confirmation of a call for service or a complaint establishes that a crime was, in fact, committed. Offenses known to law enforcement are to be recorded, **not** findings of a court, coroner, jury, or decision of a prosecutor since crime statistics generated from NIBRS are intended to assist in identifying law enforcement problems.